

CLAIMS

1. A device assembly (10) which includes at least one component which can benefit from protection, the assembly comprising:
 - a housing for the device (10),
 - a component (2) on the housing,
 - a protective cover panel (14) slidably mounted respect to the housing and moveable between first and second positions relative to the housing so as to selectively provide a protective cover over, or access to, the component (2), and
 - an area (18) positioned adjacent the cover panel which is used to provide to a user of the device (10) a view of at least one image (Image 2, Image 3, or Image 2+3), wherein
 - when the cover panel (14) is in the first position it is aligned with the component so as to form a protective cover over the component, and as the cover panel is moved from the first position to the second position, the component is progressively more accessible to the user of the device, and the area (18) is progressively moved so as to extend past the housing of the device.
2. The assembly of Claim 1, where the area (18) comprises a substrate including an image, which image is visible to the user when the cover panel is in the second position, but when the cover panel is in the first position, the image from that substrate is positioned behind a further portion of the device housing and thereby hidden from the view of the user.
3. The assembly of Claim 2, wherein when the cover panel is in the first position, the area (18) forms a viewing window which provides to the user a view of a further image that is positioned on the further portion of the device housing.
4. The assembly of Claim 1, where the area (18) comprises a slidable device coupled with the cover panel (14), the slidable device including first and second image substrates (24, 26) positioned relative to the housing so as to be moveable in conjunction with movement of the cover panel (14), said first and second image substrates being configured so that a combined image from both substrates is visible when the cover panel is in the second position, but only the

image from one substrate is visible to the user in the area (18) when the cover panel is in the first position.

5. The assembly of Claim 4, where said first and second image substrates include a respective one of first and second image thereon, and where a solid white sheet-like member having a fixed position with respect to the housing is positioned between the first and second substrates, so that as the cover panel is moved from the first position to the second position, the image in the area (18) seems to change from the first image to the combined first and second image.

6. The assembly of Claim 1, where a first image is printed on an outside facing portion of the housing that is adjacent to the component, so that when the cover panel (14) is in the first position the first image is aligned with the area (18), and when the cover panel (14) is moved toward the second position, a second is progressively revealed in area 18 in coordination with the movement of the cover panel (14).

7. The assembly of Claim 1, where an even further image is provided on the cover panel (14).

8. The assembly of Claim 1, where the device comprises an electronic device.

9. The assembly of Claim 8, where the electronic device comprises a calculator and the component comprises a display portion of the calculator.

10. The assembly of Claim 1, where the component comprises a storage compartment.

11. A method for providing a visual effect on device assembly (10) which includes at least one component which can benefit from protection, the method comprising:

providing a housing for the device (10),

providing a protective cover panel (14) slidably mounted respect to the housing and moveable between first and second positions relative to the housing so as to selectively provide a protective cover over, or allow access to, a component (2) of the housing, and

providing an area (18) positioned adjacent the cover panel for selectively displaying to a user of the device (10) a view of at least one image (Image 2, Image 3, or Image 2+3), wherein when the cover panel (14) is in the first position it is aligned with the component so as to form a protective cover over the component, and as the cover panel is moved from the first position to the second position, the component is progressively more accessible to the user of the device, and the area (18) is moved so as to progressively extend past the housing of the device and thereby progressively reveal more of the at least one image provided thereby.